

Trust Headquarters  
 Russell's Hall Hospital  
 Dudley  
 West Midlands  
 DY1 2HQ

**Ref:** FOI-000187

**Date:** 18/8/23

**Address / Email:**

Dear

**Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please see response below.

**Is your trust still using a 'continuous flow' model? If your trust is no longer doing this, please could you detail why?**

*Yes, we have adopted and local interpretation of this continuous flow model and ensure that, particularly during times of pressure, patients are moved to wards against identified definite discharges. During times of extreme pressure, we move patients against potential discharges. we do not move pts where no discharges have been identified. This model has been in place for 12 months.*

**What assessments have the trust made on a) the effectiveness of continuous flow b) the safety implications?**  
 Please provide any assessments made.

*We ensure safety implications through allocation of moves from ED towards being overseen by Divisional Chief Nurses and their Matrons. The decisions as to when and where to move patients to deliver continuous flow is a clinical decision made by clinicians in the clinical areas.*

**During the time you used continuous flow, how many 12 hour delays from time of admission were reported, and what was the average bed occupancy, and inpatient length of stay? Please also provide this data for the same months of the previous year when you were not using continuous flow.**

MSitAE reported 12+hour DTA Yearly figures	
Sept 20-Aug 21	182
Sept 21-Aug 22	514

Daily Sitrep submission at 8am each day Bed Occupancy G&A Beds only Yearly Average	
Sept 20-Aug 21	90%
Sept 21-Aug 22	93%

LoS G&A Beds only Yearly Average	
Sept 20-Aug 21	8 days
Sept 21-Aug 22	9 days

**During the time you used continuous flow, how many patient safety or serious incidents of a) overcrowding on wards b) overcrowding in A&E were reported? Please also provide this data for the same months of the previous year when you were not using continuous flow.**

**During the time you used continuous flow, how many patients suffered moderate to severe harm linked with a) overcrowding on wards b) delays in the A&E department? Again, please also provide this data for the previous year when continuous flow was not being used.**

We have not identified an increase in incidents or patients suffering harm that have been attributed to capacity or overcrowding in the Emergency Department.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager  
Trust Headquarters  
Russell's Hall Hospital  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY1 2HQ  
Email: [dgft.dpo@nhs.net](mailto:dgft.dpo@nhs.net)

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Tel: 0303 123 1113  
[www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team  
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust**